



# 2022 Virtual Family History Conference

Explore Your  
Anglo-Celtic  
Roots!

## England and Wales: at Home and on the Move

Expert Lecturers—Expo Hall  
Interactive Sessions

*Something for Everyone!*

**28 September –  
2 October 2022**

*To learn more and register*

[www.bifhsgo.ca/2022-BIFHSGO-Conference](http://www.bifhsgo.ca/2022-BIFHSGO-Conference)

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### 28 September 2022

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- 14:00: Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
*Representatives of BIFHSGO, the City of Ottawa Archives and the Ottawa Public Library*
- 14:30–15:30: My ancestor was a liar: ignorance, half-truths or wilful deceit?**  
*Dave Annal*
- 16:00–17:00: Migration and Wales**  
*Gill Thomas*
- 17:30–18:30: Researching Welsh Ancestry**  
*Derek Blount*
- 19:00–20:00: The Journey to Genealogy Services at Ādisōke**  
*Melissa Black (OPL), Robyn Feres-Cameron (LAC), Julie Roy (LAC)*

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### 29 September 2022

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- 12:00–14:00: Society Connect Session**
- 14:30–15:30: Great War Widows and Emigration**  
*Andrea Hetherington*
- 16:00–17:00: Maps for Family Historians**  
*Alan Ruston*
- 17.30–18.30: Liverpool: an Essential Emigration Port**  
*Paul Milner*

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### 1 October 2022

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- 10:00–11:00: Emigration from England**  
*Caroline Gurney*
- 11:30–12:30: Welsh Newspapers in the National Library of Wales**  
*Beryl Evans*
- 13:00–14:00: In and Out of London**  
*Ian Waller*
- 14:30–16:30: Vendor Connect Session**

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### 2 October 2022

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- 10:00–12:00: Conference Connect Session**
- 12:30–13:30: The Poor and the Parish in England and Wales**  
*Gill Blanchard*
- 14:00–15:00: Farm, Fish, Faith or Family: motivations for emigrating from North Devon emigration 1830 to 1900**  
*Dr. Janet Few*
- 15:30–16:30: Life at Home and on the Sea**  
*Mia Bennett*
- 16:30–16:45: Conference Closing**

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The conference program is subject to change.  
12 July 2022

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### Special Features

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#### Interactive Sessions

A bonus feature of the event is four interactive sessions:

- three Connect sessions, where speakers, vendors or societies will be available for two hours to answer registrants' questions or discuss their offerings
- a presentation on the new joint LAC/OPL facility, Ādisōke, where attendees can give feedback on the genealogy proposals

#### Conference Map

This is an interactive world map that allows conference attendees and BIFHSGO members and supporters to attach ancestral surnames of interest and contact information to a location. The object of doing this is to see if other attendees and contacts have genealogical interests in the same geographical area.

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### Registering for a Conference Pass

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A conference pass is \$40 (Canadian dollars) and covers all conference sessions.

It includes access to all 12 sessions over the four-day conference, access to speaker handouts before the conference and access to recordings of all presentations until 31 October.

You can pay with a credit card or PayPal. (See instructions when you register.) If you are a BIFHSGO member, you should log in before registering. If you are not a BIFHSGO member, you will be asked to create an account with a password so that we can send you the links for the conference and you can access the Registrants' Portal.

If you have questions about registration, please email [registrarconf22@bifhsgo.ca](mailto:registrarconf22@bifhsgo.ca).

After you register and complete the payment, you will receive an email confirmation. Your Zoom link, which will be valid for all conference events, will be sent to you by mid-September, with a password to access the Registrants' Portal.

Since the conference presentations will be available to registrants for a month after the conference, there will be no refund of the registration fee if you are unable to attend on the conference dates.

By registering for this conference, you agree that BIFHSGO can send you conference updates and you consent to [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca) storing your information, in accordance with its Privacy Policy.

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## Speakers

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**Dave Annal** is a professional researcher and author with over 40 years' experience, a fellow of the Society of Genealogists, and a former principal family history specialist with the (UK) National Archives. His family history books include *Easy Family History* and, with Peter Christian, *Census: the Family Historian's Guide*. He also contributes to *Family Tree* magazine.

**Mia Bennett** is a professional genealogist specializing in using DNA results to solve family history mysteries. She carries out DNA analysis for family history, runs "brick wall" workshops, provides advice at family history shows, and gives talks on DNA and family history. Mia has served as a trustee of the Society of Genealogists and is also an associate of the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (AGRA), the body representing professional genealogists throughout England and Wales.

**Gill Blanchard**, an historical researcher, tutor and author, has an academic background in history, sociology and politics. She has been conducting family, house and local history research since 1992 and has taught research locally, nationally and online. She is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and a member of AGRA.

**Derek J. Blount**, a long-time genealogist, has professionally specialized in research in the UK and the Commonwealth for 10 years. He holds a B.S. degree from Michigan's Oakland University and has studied at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh. As well as serving on genealogy-related boards and belonging to the US Association of Professional Genealogists and the Society of Genealogists in London, Derek offers genealogy research services via Lost Branches LLC.

**Beryl Evans**, the author of *Tracing Your Welsh Ancestors: A Guide for Family Historians*, is the Research Services Manager at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth. She is on the executive

committee of the Association of Family History Societies of Wales and is chairman of the Cardiganshire Family History Society. Beryl contributes to programs on family history, writes family history articles, and gives presentations on Welsh family history to a global audience.

**Janet Few** is an experienced English family, social and community historian who lectures regularly on these subjects throughout the UK, overseas and at sea. As well as writing articles for local, national and academic history and family history magazines, she has written several non-fiction history and genealogy books and two historical novels. Currently, Janet is serving as the president of the Family History Federation and chairman of the Devon Family History Society.

**Caroline Gurney** is a qualified professional genealogist, historian, and international speaker. Her work includes family history, house history, and historical research for the media, businesses, authors and collectors. She specializes in English and Anglo-Jewish research, genealogy brick walls, tracing living people, and DNA analysis. She is doing PhD research on *Mapping Bristol's Jewish Community, 1724–1881*. Caroline is a director of the Register of Qualified Genealogists and the editor of *The Journal of Genealogy and Family History*.

**Andrea Hetherington**, a writer and researcher with an interest in the social history of the First World War, is an experienced speaker both in person and online. She enjoys helping people frame their own family history in a wider historical context. Andrea has written a number of books, including most recently *British Widows of the First World War: the Forgotten Legion* and *Deserters on the Home Front: the First World War*.

**Paul Milner**, a native of northern England and a US resident, is an internationally known lecturer with 30 years' experience, specializing in British Isles research. He speaks on a variety of topics relating to research in the British Isles, migration to North America and research methodology. As

well as serving on the boards of several genealogy organizations, Paul has published numerous books, most recently *Discover English Census Records* and *Buried Treasure: what's in the English parish chest*.

**Alan Ruston** has taught, spoken and written on family history for over 30 years. He is a regular speaker at the Society of Genealogists and has written two books in their *My Ancestors Were . . .* publication series. Alan is the president of the Hertfordshire FHS and a former editor of their journal, as well as an office holder in several societies involved in Hertfordshire history.

**Gill Thomas** graduated in history at University College Cardiff. Following a commercial career in marketing and publishing, she retrained to become a professional genealogist, taking the Postgraduate Certificate in Palaeographical and Genealogical Studies at the University of Strathclyde. She is a member of AGRA and is about to become its chair. Although Gill lives in London, her family's roots are in Cardiganshire and in Mid-Wales, and her passion is Welsh research. She regularly gives talks covering different aspects of researching Welsh ancestors via the Society of Genealogists and local family history societies in England and Wales.

**Ian Waller** is a retired professional genealogist with considerable experience in English research who currently serves as the vice chairman and education officer of the Federation of Family History Societies. He is a fellow and former chairman of AGRA. Ian is also a fellow of the Society of Genealogists and has published several books in the society's *My Ancestors Were . . .* series. He has also written *Family History Research Challenges and How to Solve Them* and *Introducing Manorial Records*, published by Family History Books.

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## Expo Hall

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The Expo Hall is open to both conference registrants and the public. It offers information on commercial vendors, genealogical and historical societies, family history bloggers, and archives and museums.

**Becoming an Expo Hall Vendor/Exhibitor**  
For information on participating in the Expo Hall, please contact the Publicity Coordinator at [publconf22@bifhsgo.ca](mailto:publconf22@bifhsgo.ca).



### The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

Founded and incorporated in 1994, the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is a not-for-profit genealogical organization.

Our objective is to encourage and facilitate family history research and its dissemination by people with ancestry in the British Isles—that is, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands. Our members connect with like-minded researchers to learn effective research methods and practices, share their knowledge and inspire other family historians with their presentations and published stories. Our Name Index provides information from our ongoing research on home children, military ancestors and migration, focusing on British Isles and Canadian ancestry.